

# Global Emergency and Children

An Ecologise Anthology

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**Ecologise Hyderabad**

**GLOBAL EMERGENCY AND CHILDREN**  
**An Ecologise Anthology**

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## **FOREWORD**

In the last few months, Greta Thunberg emerged as the face of children's protests on the issue of Global Climate Emergency. However, as the pages below reveal, right after the Paris Agreement in 2016, concerns about young people appeared. We in India can be proud that nine-year-old Ridhima Pandey filed a petition against the Indian government, seeking action to save the planet for future generations way back in 2017. Other contributions in this little booklet will show that children and youth all over the world have been active. It is time for all of us to join.

Sajai Jose has been the chief architect of the website, first as [www.peakoilindia](http://www.peakoilindia) and later as [www.ecologise.in](http://www.ecologise.in) for nearly 7 years. A visit to the website will tell you how meticulously the current ecological crisis has been covered by the website. This booklet owes its existence to his work. He is too modest to allow his name to appear on the front page of this booklet.

**T. Vijayendra**

Ecologise Hyderabad

May 15, 2019



# YOUNG PEOPLE'S BURDEN

## Paris Treaty is a Fraud

James Hansen

*Former NASA scientist **James Hansen** is widely regarded as 'the father of climate change awareness'. His new paper, titled 'Young People's Burden', outlines how - if governments don't take aggressive climate action today - future generations will inherit a climate system so altered that it will require prohibitively expensive, and possibly infeasible, extraction of CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere.*

Many hail the Paris Treaty - set to cross the threshold this week to come into effect - as a panacea for global climate change. Yet tragically, this perspective neglects to take into account the scientific reality of our climate system, which tells a much different story.

Our latest research, **Young People's Burden: Requirement of Negative CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions**, appeared on Monday as a "Discussion" paper in *Earth System Dynamics Discussion*, and outlines how - if national governments neglect to take aggressive climate action today - today's young people will inherit a climate system so altered that it will require prohibitively expensive-and possibly infeasible-extraction of CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere.

Global temperatures are already at the level of the Eemian period (130,000 to 115,000 years ago), when sea levels was 6-9 meters higher than today. Considering the additional warming ‘in the pipeline’ due to delayed response of the climate system and the impossibility of instant replacement of fossil fuels, additional temperature rise is inevitable.

Continued high fossil fuel emissions place a burden on young people to undertake ‘negative CO<sub>2</sub> emissions’ which would require massive technological CO<sub>2</sub> extraction with minimal estimated costs of \$104-\$570 trillion this century, with large risks and uncertain feasibility.

Continued high fossil fuel emissions unarguably sentences young people to either a massive, possibly implausible clean up or growing deleterious climate impacts or both, scenarios that should provide incentive and obligation for governments to alter energy policies without further delay.

The paper provides the underlying scientific backing for the Our Children’s Trust lawsuit against the U.S. government, which argues that climate change jeopardizes the next generation’s inalienable rights under the U.S. Constitution to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

The paper offers an opportunity to examine the current state of the planet with respect to climate change. Four key takeaways include:

1. *The Paris Climate Accord is a precatory<sup>1</sup> agreement, wishful thinking that mainly reaffirms, 23 years later, the 1992 Rio Framework Convention on Climate Change.* The developing world’s need for abundant, affordable, reliable energy is largely ignored, even though it is a basic requirement to eliminate global poverty and war. Instead

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1. of, pertaining to, characterized by, or expressing entreaty or supplication.



the developed world pretends to offer reparations, a vaporous \$100B/year, while allowing climate impacts to grow.

2. *As long as fossil fuels are allowed to be held up as the cheapest reliable energy, they will continue to be the world's largest energy source and the likelihood of disastrous consequences for young people will grow to near certainty.*
3. *Technically, it is still possible to solve the climate problem, but there are two essential requirements: (1) a simple across-the-board rising carbon fee collected from fossil fuel companies at the source, and (2) Government support for RD&D (research, development and demonstration) of clean energy technologies, including advanced generation, safe nuclear power.*
4. *Courts are crucial to solution of the climate problem.* The climate “problem” was and is an opportunity for transformation to a clean energy future. However, the heavy hand of the fossil fuel industry works mostly in legal ways such as the “I’m an Energy Voter” campaign in the USA. Failure of executive and legislative branches to deal with climate change makes it essential for Courts, less subject to pressure and bribery from special financial interests, to step in and protect young people, as they did minorities in the case of civil rights.

*James Hansen is Director of the Climate Science, Awareness and Solutions Program at Columbia University.*

*<https://www.ecologise.in/2016/10/07/james-hansen-4-reasons-the-paris-agreement-wont-solve-climate-change/>*

**NINE-YEAR OLD  
RIDHIMA PANDEY'S PETITION**  
**Seeking Action against the Indian government,  
to save the Planet for Future Generations**

**Meera Gopal**  
India Climate Dialogue

*Ridhima Pandey, a 9-year old from Uttarakhand, has filed a lawsuit against the Centre for failing to take action on climate change. Don't be surprised, after all it's her generation that's going to inherit the earth with all the environmental problems left by ours, writes Meera Gopal, who is representing Ridhima before the National Green Tribunal.*

As US President Donald Trump scrapped his predecessor Barack Obama's Clean Power Plan in an attempt to turn back the clock on the global fight against climate change, a nine-year-old girl in India has approached the National Green Tribunal, the country's environmental Court, to hold the Government to account for its commitment under the Paris Climate Agreement.

Ridhima Pandey, hailing from the Himalayan state of Uttarakhand in India, represents the generation that is going to inherit the earth with all the environmental problems left by our generation.

Ridhima approached the Tribunal because history has shown that commitments made under international agreements rarely translate into action at the ground level or make a difference for average citizens battling climate change.

Uttarakhand has been devastated in the past three years by heavy rains, flash floods and frequent landslides, linked to climate change, and estimated to have killed thousands of people. Ridhima inherited her passion for climate change campaigning from her father, Dinesh Pandey, who has been working for 16 years for an environmental NGO in Uttarakhand.

## **The Petition**

In her petition, Ridhima, who is represented by advocates from Lawyers Initiative for Forest and Environment (LIFE), argues the Government needs to take urgent and effective, science-based measures under the existing environmental legal framework in India to reduce and minimise the adverse impacts of climate change in the country. The Tribunal has admitted the petition and has directed the Government to respond within two weeks. That leaves Ridhima hopeful of a better India.

The petition highlights the Government's failure to act on climate change, despite introducing many policies on paper. Ridhima argues that the Government can mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change if it takes steps within the existing framework of environmental protection laws.

But the problem is in the implementation. To substantiate, the petition underscores the lacunae in the process of environmental impact assessment under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, and the diversion of forest land despite the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The petition argues that various projects seeking environmental or forest clearance should also be appraised for climate change impacts and whether they are in line with commitments made to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change under India's nationally determined contributions to combat climate change. It promises a "low carbon emission pathway" for India.

Every year more than 50,000 hectares of natural forests are diverted by the Government of India and thousands of projects are granted environmental clearance. The impact of the massive diversion of forest land on aggravating climate change has never been considered. The petition further points out that the Government committees appraising projects have not factored climate change impacts and mitigation into their decisions.

Through this ambitious petition, Ridhima asks the NGT to direct the Government and its agencies to assess climate related issues while appraising projects for grant of environmental/ forest clearances. They should also check projects satisfy compensatory afforestation conditions before granting permissions for fresh diversion of forests, keeping in view the INDC (Intended Nationally Determined Contribution) commitment of increasing carbon sinks in the country.

Ridhima has also asked the Government to prepare quantifiable targets, or a “carbon budget”, for the total amount of greenhouse gas (mainly carbon dioxide) emissions that can be released until 2050 by India, in keeping with the global responsibility of limiting the long-term average global temperature increase to no more than 2°C. India currently has a commitment to reduce the intensity of its emissions by 30-35% by 2030, compared to 2005.

### **Why are children coming forward?**

It is well documented that children are the most vulnerable and worst affected due to adverse impacts of climate change across the globe. Unfortunately, owing to their “minor” status, they are not involved in decision making processes. Antony Lake, UNICEF Executive Director, pointed out, “As temperatures increase, together with water scarcity and air pollution, children will feel the deadliest impact of water-borne diseases and dangerous respiratory conditions. As more extreme weather events expand the number of emergencies and

humanitarian crises, children will pay the highest price. As the world experiences a steady rise in climate-driven migration, children's lives and futures will be the most disrupted."

Children are particularly susceptible to injury and death as a result of extreme heat, drought, floods and other disasters caused by climate change. They are also at an increased risk from food and water shortages caused by crop failure, ocean acidification, water and soil salinization, and species extinction. A 2015 UNICEF report estimated over half a billion children live in extremely high flood occurrence zones, whereas nearly 160 million live in high or extremely high drought severity zones.

### **There is hope**

This petition follows a similar case brought by a seven-year old girl last year against the Pakistan Government for not taking sufficient action on climate change. It is a good sign that children like Ridhima are coming forward to bring about such positive change.

In his book *The Great Derangement: Climate Change and the Unthinkable*, Amitav Ghosh writes that a "lack of transitive connection between political mobilization, on the one hand, and global warming, on the other, is nowhere more evident than in the countries of South Asia, all of which are extraordinarily vulnerable to climate change." He laments that "climate change has not resulted in an outpouring of passion in the country, despite the fact that India has innumerable environmental organisations and grassroots movements." Hopefully, Ridhima will be able to prove Amitav Ghosh wrong.

*Meera Gopal is representing Ridhima before the National Green Tribunal along with Ritwick Dutta from the Lawyers Initiative for Forest and Environment.*

*<https://www.ecologise.in/2017/05/05/child-steps-demand-climate-action/>*

## STUDENT'S EPIC LEGAL BATTLE

Can have a big impact on Global Climate Action

**Kristin Casper & Kate Simcock**

Greenpeace

*From Greenpeace International: In June 2017, a courageous 26-year old Hamilton law student, **Sarah Thomson**, spent five days in Court challenging the New Zealand Government over climate change targets she called “unambitious and irrational”. Now, she’s made history, after the country’s High Court issued a game-changing verdict that has implications for climate legislation worldwide.*

On 2 November, 2017, the High Court of New Zealand issued a game-changing ruling. It found that climate change presents significant risks and Government actions on climate change are subject to judicial scrutiny. The Court also found that the former Minister for Climate Change acted unlawfully by failing to review the country’s climate change targets after the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) published an updated report on climate science.

The Court didn’t issue an order against the recently elected Government because the new Prime Minister, Jacinda Ardern, has committed the country to zero carbon by 2050. While Sarah is excited about the new 2050 target, she believes there needs to be a concrete plan to achieve it. Sarah hasn’t ruled out an appeal.

This ruling is a big deal.

It demonstrates that countries must review climate decisions in line with updated science, and Courts will weigh in on inadequate efforts to respond to climate change.

Here's why this ruling from a small South Pacific country Court will have a big impact on global climate action.

### ***1. People are securing big wins for the climate in Court***

First there was the case brought by the Urgenda Foundation and 900 co-plaintiffs. They argued that the Netherlands committed a tort (a wrongful act or an infringement of a right (other than under contract) leading to legal liability.) of negligence against its citizens by contributing to climate change. The Court agreed and ordered the Government to increase its emission reduction targets.

Then in Pakistan a farmer sued the Federal Government, arguing that inaction on climate change violated the constitutional rights to life and dignity. Again, the Court agreed and ordered the Government to act and placed it under judicial supervision.

And the wins continue. In the USA, 21 young people and a climate scientist, as guardians for future generations, sued the Government for violating their rights by committing the US to a fossil fuel based energy system. In rejecting Government and industry efforts to have the case dismissed, the Court ruled that their case could proceed to trial and identified a new right to 'a climate system capable of sustaining human life.'

Like the landmark decisions that came before it, the New Zealand High Court's ruling will inspire more people to sue. It provides strong legal arguments in favour of Government accountability for weak climate policies in other pending cases, such as the climate lawsuit brought by over 700 Swiss senior women.

## ***2. The stage is set for the climate trial in Norway and a human rights investigation in the Philippines***

Another epic Court battle is set to begin on 14 November, 2017 and a Norwegian Court could be the next to hold a Government accountable in a climate case.

Greenpeace Nordic and Nature & Youth filed a lawsuit against the Norwegian Government for opening up new areas in the Arctic for drilling for oil and gas, further north than ever before. They allege that the licenses infringe the Constitutional right to a healthy environment, explicitly safeguarded for future generations, as well as contravening the Paris Agreement.

On the other side of the world, the people of Tacloban are marking the 4th anniversary of super typhoon Haiyan, which hit the Philippines in November 2013. At least 6,300 lives were lost and millions of others were affected and have yet to recover. Like Sarah and the youth in Norway, disaster survivors and other Filipinos are using the power of the law to accelerate action on climate change.

In September 2015, they filed a legal petition, triggering a powerful human rights body to launch a serious investigation into the responsibility big fossil fuel companies have for fuelling climate impacts that contribute to human rights harms. On December 11th, the Commission will be holding a preliminary conference with the aim of finding a speedy resolution, which the people hope will work to prevent climate-related human rights harms.

## ***3. Climate litigation creates a strong mandate for global climate action***

The Paris Climate Agreement set down a bold ambition to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius. We're in a race against time to increase climate action to meet this target.

Right now, governments are gathering in Bonn, Germany at the 23rd annual Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework  
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Convention on Climate Change. This should also be the moment where countries prepare to speed up their global climate action efforts.

The New Zealand ruling is a warning to all governments. If countries fail to get their act together to make sure deadly climate impacts are averted, they too will be hauled into Court.

*Take action! You can hold the big polluters accountable. Add your name and support communities seeking climate justice through legal actions.*

*<https://www.ecologise.in/2017/11/27/young-students-legal-battle-can-big-impact-global-climate-action/>*

# **SCHOOL STRIKE FOR CLIMATE**

**Save the World by Changing the Rules**

**Greta Thunberg**

*Editor's note: This talk was recorded at a TEDx event organized by volunteers; speakers are selected independently of TEDx. November 2018*

When I was about eight years old, I first heard about something called climate change or global warming. Apparently, that was something humans have created by our way of living. I was told to turn off the lights to save energy and to recycle paper to save resources. I remember thinking that it was very strange that humans, who are an animal species among others, could be capable of changing the Earth's climate. Because if we were, and if it was really happening, we wouldn't be talking about anything else. As soon as you'd turn on the TV, everything would be about that. Headlines, radio, newspapers, you would never read or hear about anything else, as if there was a world war going on. But no one ever talked about it. If burning fossil fuels was so bad that it threatened our very existence, how could we just continue like before? Why were there no restrictions? Why wasn't it made illegal? To me, that did not add up. It was too unreal. So when I was 11, I became ill. I fell into depression, I stopped talking, and I stopped eating. In two months, I lost about 10 kilos of weight.

Later on, I was diagnosed with Asperger syndrome, OCD (Obsessive Compulsive Disorder) and selective mutism. That basically means I only speak when I think its necessary - now is one of those moments. (Applause) For those of us who are on the spectrum, almost everything is black or white. We aren't very good at lying, and we usually don't enjoy participating in this social game that the rest of you seem so fond of. (Laughter)

I think in many ways that we autistic are the normal ones, and the rest of the people are pretty strange, (Laughter) especially when it comes to the sustainability crisis, where everyone keeps saying climate change is an existential threat and the most important issue of all, and yet they just carry on like before. I don't understand that, because if the emissions have to stop, then we must stop the emissions. To me that is black or white. There are no grey areas when it comes to survival. Either we go on as a civilization or we don't. We have to change.

Rich countries like Sweden need to start reducing emissions by at least 15 percent every year. And that is so that we can stay below a two-degree warming target. Yet, as the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) has recently demonstrated, aiming instead for 1.5 degrees Celsius would significantly reduce the climate impacts. But we can only imagine what that means for reducing emissions. You would think the media and every one of our leaders would be talking about nothing else, but they never even mention it. Nor does anyone ever mention the greenhouse gases already locked in the system. Nor that air pollution is hiding a warming so that when we stop burning fossil fuels, we already have an extra level of warming perhaps as high as 0.5 to 1.1 degrees Celsius. Furthermore, hardly anyone does speak about the fact that we are in the midst of the sixth mass extinction, with up to 200 species going extinct every single day, that the extinction rate today is between 1,000 and 10,000 times higher than what is seen as normal. Nor does hardly anyone

ever speak about the aspect of equity or climate justice, clearly stated everywhere in the Paris Agreement, which is absolutely necessary to make it work on a global scale. That means that rich countries need to get down to zero emissions within 6 to 12 years, with today's emission speed.

And that is so that people in poorer countries can have a chance to heighten their standard of living by building some of the infrastructure that we have already built, such as roads, schools, hospitals, clean drinking water, electricity, and so on. Because how can we expect countries like India or Nigeria to care about the climate crisis if we who already have everything don't care even a second about it or our actual commitments to the Paris Agreement? So, why are we not reducing our emissions? Why are they in fact still increasing? Are we knowingly causing a mass extinction? Are we evil? No, of course not. People keep doing what they do because the vast majority doesn't have a clue about the actual consequences of our everyday life, and they don't know that rapid change is required. We all think we know, and we all think everybody knows, but we don't. Because how could we? If there really was a crisis, and if this crisis was caused by our emissions, you would at least see some signs. Not just flooded cities, tens of thousands of dead people, and whole nations levelled to piles of torn down buildings. You would see some restrictions.

But no. And no one talks about it. There are no emergency meetings, no headlines, no breaking news. No one is acting as if we were in a crisis. Even most climate scientists or green politicians keep on flying around the world, eating meat and dairy. If I live to be 100, I will be alive in the year 2103. When you think about the future today, you don't think beyond the year 2050. By then, I will, in the best case, not even have lived half of my life. What happens next? The year 2078, I will celebrate my 75th birthday. If I have children or grandchildren, maybe they will spend that day with me. Maybe

they will ask me about you, the people who were around, back in 2018. Maybe they will ask why you didn't do anything while there still was time to act. What we do or don't do right now will affect my entire life and the lives of my children and grandchildren. What we do or don't do right now, me and my generation can't undo in the future.

So when school started in August of this year, I decided that this was enough. I set myself down on the ground outside the Swedish parliament. I school striked for the climate. Some people say that I should be in school instead. Some people say that I should study to become a climate scientist so that I can 'solve the climate crisis.' But the climate crisis has already been solved. We already have all the facts and solutions. All we have to do is to wake up and change. And why should I be studying for a future that soon will be no more when no one is doing anything whatsoever to save that future? And what is the point of learning facts in the school system when the most important facts given by the finest science of that same school system clearly means nothing to our politicians and our society. Some people say that Sweden is just a small country, and that it doesn't matter what we do, but I think that if a few children can get headlines all over the world just by not coming to school for a few weeks, imagine what we could all do together if you wanted to. (Applause)

Now we're almost at the end of my talk, and this is where people usually start talking about hope, solar panels, wind power, circular economy, and so on, but I'm not going to do that. We've had 30 years of pep-talking and selling positive ideas. And I'm sorry, but it doesn't work. Because if it would have, the emissions would have gone down by now. They haven't. And yes, we do need hope, of course we do. But the one thing we need more than hope is action. Once we start to act, hope is everywhere. So instead of looking for hope, look for action. Then, and only then, hope will come. Today, we use 100 million barrels of oil every single day. There are no politics

to change that. There are no rules to keep that oil in the ground. So we can't save the world by playing by the rules, because the rules have to be changed. Everything needs to change, and it has to start today. Thank you. (Applause)

*[https://www.ted.com/talks/greta\\_thunberg\\_the\\_disarming\\_case\\_to\\_act\\_right\\_now\\_on\\_climate/transcript?language=en](https://www.ted.com/talks/greta_thunberg_the_disarming_case_to_act_right_now_on_climate/transcript?language=en)*

# **DECLARATION OF A NATIONAL CLIMATE EMERGENCY**

## **And Tackling of Climate Change**

*Petitioning Dr Harsh Vardhan, Minister of Environment,*

*Forest and Climate Change*

**Aman Sharma**

India. Change.org

I, school student Aman Sharma along with tens of lakhs of students across India and the entire population of environmentally conscious citizens demand that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change declare a National Climate Emergency and work towards tackling climate change.

India accounts for 7 of the top 10 most polluted cities of the world. Being a nature enthusiast, I know the repercussions that several years of ignorance towards the root causes of global warming like greenhouse gas emissions and deforestation would have for India in the long run. The Himalayan snow has been steadily melting due to global warming. Climate change has also adversely affected the rainfall pattern in India, with devastating effect on farmers' harvests and affecting the migration patterns of different birds and animals.

India's politicians have till now been in denial of the fact that climate change is an actual threat and have completely side-lined all environmental issues. A major change is needed in the way Government forms its environmental policies. They need to refocus their policies from making the environment a better place for humans to making it a better place for all living creatures.

Can we really think of raising a family or having kids in a world which will be devoid of basic amenities of life like clean air, food and water?

We demand that the environment ministry -

1. Declare a National Climate emergency and recognise its shortcomings in providing to us a safe environment.
2. Commit to the Paris Agreement which seeks to limit the Earth's warming to below 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 degrees Fahrenheit).
3. Works towards meeting the goal of a green cover of 33% in the country as proposed and accepted in its National Forest Policy.
4. Implement much stricter rules to reduce sporadic clearances of forests for activities such as mining and building.
5. Implement stricter rules towards curbing illegal mining in green and wetland areas.
6. Give priority to completing all plans enlisted under INDC (Intended Nationally Determined Contribution).

Children have been protesting since March for a common goal of action against climate change, however our voices have been ignored and suppressed. We shall be the next voters in the Lok Sabha elections and we shall ensure that the policies of the government align themselves with international environmental standards. We demand action of India's present and future leaders on climate change and environmental concerns. Within five years we shall be the new generation of voters, and we shall cast our votes only for the parties engaged in bringing Climate Justice.

'Let us be the youth of today, leaders of tomorrow and the change making voters of the future'.



*Aman Sharma, along with Asbeer, Asees, The Students Strike for Climate Change organisation and Cuckoo About Nature Club.*

*<https://www.change.org/p/dr-harsh-wardhan-declaration-of-a-national-climate-emergency-and-tackling-of-climate-change>*

May 2019

## INDIGENOUS YOUTH AND CLIMATE CHANGE

*According to the legendary scholar Noam Chomsky, the world is “facing potential environmental catastrophe and not in the distant future,” and the only communities standing between humankind and catastrophe is the world’s Indigenous people.*

*<https://www.ecologise.in/2017/h>*

### **Xiuhtezcatl Martinez**

Xiuhtezcatl Martinez or Xiuhtezcatl Roske-Martinez is an indigenous environmental activist, hip hop artist and youth director of Earth Guardians, a worldwide conservation organization. Born: 9 May 2000 (age 19 years), Boulder, Colorado, United States.

Albums: We Rise - The Earth Guardians Guide to Building a Movement That Restores the Planet (From Wikipedia)

*For the last 11 years, Xiuhtezcatl Martinez has been in the public eye for his activism, movement building, work with Earth Guardians, and youth empowerment. In 2013, President Obama awarded Xiuhtezcatl the United States Community Service Award. Xiuhtezcatl was the youngest of 24 national change-makers chosen to serve on the president’s youth council. He is the recipient*

*of the 2015 Peace First Prize; the 2015 Nickelodeon Halo Award; the 2016 Captain Planet Award; the 2016 Children's Climate Prize in Sweden; and the 2017 Univision Premios Agente de Cambio Award. He has addressed the UN General Assembly, given TED Talks, been interviewed by Bill Maher, and made an appearance on the Daily Show with Trevor Noah—all by the age of 17. Currently, he is one of 21 young plaintiffs suing the U.S. Government for violating our constitutional rights by perpetuating the climate crisis in the trial of the century: Juliana vs. the United States. He has authored We Rise: The Earth Guardians Guide to Building a Movement That Restores the Planet, and just released his first album, Break Free.*

*[https://www.kosmosjournal.org/kj\\_article/xiubtezcatl-martinez/](https://www.kosmosjournal.org/kj_article/xiubtezcatl-martinez/)*

# **BROKEN**

**Xiuhtezcatl**

To break free was never my choice  
Walked broken streets  
Expectations overpowered my voice  
Pray my greatness won't die with me  
I'm praying my greatness won't die with me  
And I'm losing myself  
Feel like I've got something to prove to myself  
Too long fulfilling expectations got my truth overwhelmed  
Scales broken, the world is ending, and you're choosing your wealth

While the walls fall and the world burn  
Seas rise and the clock turns  
The earth fighting back with hurricanes  
And the earthquakes and the pouring rain  
This is for every life lost  
For the legacy of Standing Rock  
For the sacred land that we desecrate  
The trauma my people still carry today

For the suicide of our youth who still suffer from being colonized  
Watched the bombs drop and the bullets fly  
We steadily ignoring the Earth's cry  
Passed too many tipping points  
It's not enough, running out of time

And the walls fall

How could you be a witness to the end  
And not act?  
Can't you see the world is broken?  
Every person on the planet part of something bigger than us  
We have all been chosen  
As the generation of humanity that determines  
What kind of world will we pass down to our children?  
I'm uncertain  
How will you look your child in the eyes and tell them  
Their future wasn't worth fighting for, could've done more but didn't  
listen  
Didn't wake up, didn't speak up, didn't fight back when there was still  
time  
Everything we love is what we must protect in the final moments  
while there's still time  
There is still time

I believe  
There is still  
Time

The 11th-hour man we living in  
Drowning in the sea of hopelessness  
I've carried this weight my entire life, and it's too much  
Feel like giving in  
We standing still at a precipice  
I believe that our legacy will be more than this  
The apathy is so poisonous and it's killin' us  
Diversity is resilient  
Can't let our differences divide us  
Gotta recognize that the change we want in the world has to start  
inside us  
We have a lot to heal from  
The world needs to change  
Fight for what we love, start healing the world's hate  
Build beauty from the ashes after the world breaks  
It's in the hands of the youth now  
We leading the way

We're born and we die, I'm done trying to escape it  
I learnt from my momma that this life is what you make it  
If happiness is a choice, It's up to you to choose it  
If my power is in my voice, then I'm bound to learn to use it  
Breakdowns lead to breakthroughs  
Move through the challenges, flow where the current takes you  
I'm grateful to be young and this passionate  
In my heart, part of me has always been an activist  
That's why I wrote this record, so you could understand  
Music made me believe in the person I am  
No masks, no acting, no gimmicks  
This is what it looks like to live life with no limits

This art is my resistance  
I like my revolution with rhythm  
A melody and a breakbeat, so people will listen  
This is for every broken soul that's felt like giving up  
I pray this music and this world can play a part to lift you up  
A people's champion, show the people all that they can be  
This journey's always been 'bout so much more than being happy

Yes I'm broken, the world is too, that's how it is  
But things have to fall apart to be reborn as more than this  
I believe that the world can be more than what it is  
I believe all the loss we've felt will teach us how to give  
I look back at our ancestors and how they used to live  
In balance with the planet, that's how we've got to live  
With love being the compass that guides the way  
Leads us home  
I believe the brighter days, are on their way  
We've gotta hope  
With love being the compass that guides the way  
Leads us home  
I believe the brighter days, are on their way  
We've gotta hope

I believe  
There is still  
Time

*<https://genius.com/Xiuhtezcatl-broken-lyrics>*

